

CHANGES AFFECTING FLOOD WARNINGS, WATCHES, AND ADVISORIES

In response to input from those we serve, the National Weather Service (NWS) is simplifying and consolidating the manner in which we communicate hydrologic threats. Specifically, we will be making changes to our Hydrologic Warnings, Watches, and Advisories.

These changes will become effective on November 9th, 2021 for Weather Forecast Office-Bismarck.



Along with the above consolidation of Hydro Products, the NWS is also moving to a What, Where, When, Impacts, and Additional Information format for our Flood Warnings and Watches. This change in format is also in response to input received from our partners.

Here is an example of the newly formatted Flood Advisory:

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Flood Advisory
National Weather Service Chicago/Romeoville
1234 AM CDT Fri May 31 2019

ILC075-091-INC073-111-310900-
/O.NEW.KLOT.FA.Y.0019.190531T0534Z-190531T0900Z/
/00000.N.ER.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.000000T0000Z.OO/
Kankakee IL-Iroquois IL-Newton IN-Jasper IN-
1234 AM CDT Fri May 31 2019

...FLOOD ADVISORY IN EFFECT UNTIL 4 AM CDT...

* WHAT...Urban and small stream flooding due to heavy rain.

* WHERE...Eastern Kankakee County in northeastern Illinois, Northeastern
  Iroquois County in east central Illinois, Newton County in northwestern
  Indiana, Jasper County in northwestern Indiana.

  Some locations that will experience flooding include...
  Kankakee, Bourbonnais, Bradley, Manteno, Rensselaer, De Motte,
  Momence, Morocco, Percy Junction, Thayer, Roselawn, Gifford, Enos,
  Pembroke, Fair Oaks, Conrad, Sumava Resorts, Beaver City, Moody and
  Forest City.

* WHEN...Until 400 AM CDT.

* IMPACTS...Excessive runoff from heavy rainfall will cause flooding of
  small creeks and streams, urban areas, highways, streets and underpasses,
  country roads, farmland, as well as other drainage areas and low-lying
  spots.

* ADDITIONAL DETAILS...At 1232 AM CDT, Doppler radar indicated heavy rain due
  to slow moving thunderstorms. This will cause flooding in the advisory
  area. Up to nearly two inches of rain has already fallen north of
  Morocco Indiana.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

Turn around, don't drown when encountering flooded roads. Most flood
deaths occur in vehicles.

Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize the
dangers of flooding.

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What will not be changing in our suite of Hydrologic products are the Drought Statement and Hydrologic Outlooks. The format and purpose of these products will remain the same for the foreseeable future.